Serial No. : 10/019,181
Filed : July 8, 2002

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings on the ground that Figures 4A, 4B, 6 and 7 are not labeled as prior art. Accordingly, Applicant has submitted concurrently herewith a request for approval of drawing changes in which a prior art label is added to Figures 4A, 4B, 6 and 7. This is to verify that no new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Therefore, Applicant believes that the objection to the drawings is no longer applicable to the present application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the abstract of the disclosure on the ground that it contains purported merits of the invention. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the abstract to correct the informalities. Therefore, Applicant believes that the objection to the abstract is no longer applicable to the present application.

The Examiner objected to the Brief Description of the Drawings on the ground that the Brief needs to indicate that Figures 4A, 4B, 6 and 7 pointed out above are prior art, and Figure 4 should be Figures 4A and 4B, and Figure 5 should be Figures 5A and 5B. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner regarding the first part of the objection because the Brief Description of the Drawings includes the word "conventional", i.e., prior art, with respect to Figures 4, 6 and 7, respectively. With respect to the second part of the objection, Applicant has amended the Brief Description of the Drawings to correct the informalities.

Serial No. : 10/019,181
Filed : July 8, 2002

Therefore, Applicant believes that the objection to the Brief Description of the Drawings is no longer applicable to the present application.

The Examiner objected to the description at the last the paragraph on page 16 to the top of page 17 of the specification on the ground that the description is confusing. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the specification to correct the description and more clearly specify the present invention. Therefore, Applicant believes that the objection to the specification is no longer applicable to the present application.

The Examiner objected to claim 11 on the ground that each step of the claim is not separated by a line indentation. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 11 to correct the form and more clearly define the present invention. Therefore, Applicant believes that the objection to the claim 1 is no longer applicable to the present application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 11-24 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. The Examiner has pointed out various wording problems in the claims. Accordingly, Applicant has reviewed the set of claims and amended the claims to more clearly define the present invention. Therefore, Applicant believes that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, is no longer applicable to the present application.

Serial No. : 10/019,181
Filed : July 8, 2002

In this opportunity, Applicant has reviewed and amended the specification to correct minor errors therein. This is to verify that no new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that Claims 11-24 are in condition for allowance, and accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the present application be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,
MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES

Dated: 12/19/2003

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